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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 DAR ES SALAAM 001944

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TAGS: [KVPR](#) [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [CVIS](#) [ASEC](#) [KHLS](#) [TZ](#)  
SUBJECT: TANZANIA: GLOBAL PURSUIT OF TERRORIST INFORMATION  
EXCHANGE

REF: STATE 190832

Classified By: D. Purnell Delly, Deputy Chief of Mission, for reason 1.  
4(d).

11. (C) SUMMARY. Since 2002, the Government of Tanzania (GOT) has been partnering with the U.S. to collect information and screen travelers at major entry points using the Personal Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System (PISCES). Through the GOT's own initiative, Tanzania's Immigration Department is also currently in the process of rolling out a new computerized visa system to points of entry and diplomatic missions abroad. The system will use the GOT Immigration Department's Prohibited Immigrants List as its primary watchlist to ensure unwanted foreigners do not enter Tanzania. Although using a variety of international watchlists, the GOT has not yet integrated these lists and information sharing between key GOT agencies is limited. Another challenge to the GOT's collection of biographic data on suspected terrorists is that PISCES is neither interconnected at different border points nor managed centrally to ensure timely, accurate information exchange. The USG and GOT have been working as partners and sharing information in the global war on terror in the wake of the 1998 bombing. Potential for greater sharing and partnership exists, especially to enhance existing systems, such as PISCES, and to encourage better use and management of existing watchlists. Completing PISCES is an imperative under Post's MPP CT goal paper and we believe sharing of watchlists and ultimately connection of PISCES networks across boundaries should be components of the Secretary's Regional Strategic Initiative for East Africa. END SUMMARY.

Immigration Database:

12. (SBU) Assistant Director of Immigration, Magnus Ulongi, explained that the Government of Tanzania (GOT) was currently piloting a new immigration visa system. In 2004, the GOT began developing the visa system and by early 2006, the GOT started to pilot the system at three major points of entry: Dar es Salaam International Airport (DIA), Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) and Zanzibar International Airport (ZIA). The GOT's plan is to deploy the system at over 50 points of entry and diplomatic missions abroad. He said that the Immigration Department had a system of "grading" entry points (large, medium and small) based on their size and that the system would be rolled out to the "large" entry points first over the next several years. A

Dutch contractor developed and implemented the system but the GOT has provided full funding for the project, according to Ulongi.

13. (C) Ulongi highlighted two challenges to the new visa system's effectiveness. The first challenge, he explained, was to ensure sufficient capacity to operate the system. "The training takes place in the Netherlands and we need to ensure over the long run that we have sufficient staff trained to operate the system at entry points and diplomatic missions around the world," Ulongi said. The second challenge he stressed was that government systems namely, the visa system and PISCES (Personal Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System), were not integrated. "Without these systems integrated, our control mechanisms are weaker and our information remains stovepiped," he told Poloff.

14. (C) According to Ulongi, the new visa system is based on the Immigration Department's watchlist known as the "Prohibited Immigrants List" - a list which dates back to the 1950s and comprises foreigners suspected of transnational crimes. While noting that the list had hundred of names on it, Ulongi said that he was not sure of any method or effort to systematically update the list.

#### Watchlists and Information Sharing:

15. (C) Tanzania currently uses PISCES to screen travelers at four major points of entry: KIA, DIA, ZIA and Namanga (a border crossing with Kenya). In addition to the Prohibited Immigrants List, the GOT has a variety of international watchlists including lists provided by Interpol, United

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Nations (UN), and the U.S. Although Ulongi noted that the GOT had various watchlists, he explained that the GOT did not have any "master list" and that information sharing between Tanzania's police force, intelligence service and Immigration Department was limited. "The police and the Tanzanian Intelligence Service (TIS) are supposed to give us names for the Prohibited Immigrants Lists, but they often don't," he said, highlighting the relatively low level of information sharing within the GOT. Ulongi also lamented that PISCES was not interconnected: "To make PISCES work, we really need to link points of entry and ensure the system is administered centrally. Otherwise, it's effectiveness will be reduced."

(Comment: Post is currently conducting a National CT Center Workshop which has drawn senior-level participation from across the Tanzanian government, including the National Police, military, immigration, and customs. We believe creation of this center will help address coordination issues like watchlist integration, and therefore we have made creation and further development of this center a top MPP CT objective.)

16. (C) Tanzania does not have any bilateral or multilateral watchlist agreements with its neighbors, but Ulongi said that the East African Community (EAC) was currently in the process of developing common immigration practices. "In a joint initiative, under the International Organization of Migration (IOM), the EAC is currently working to streamline the visa regime," Ulongi explained. He was not aware, however, of any precise timeframe for implementation of this standardized visa regime.

#### Biometrics:

17. (SBU) Tanzania does not have any biometrics systems in place nor any plans to install such systems in the near future. In March 2005, the GOT introduced a machine readable passport, but the passports do not include biometric data.

Comment: Tanzania Already a Partner

18. (C) The GOT and USG already cooperate as data sharing partners in a variety of areas ranging from law enforcement and forensics, to narcotics and counterterrorist financing. Although the GOT does not formally share its domestic watchlist with the USG, there is potential for additional data sharing on this front. There is little to no risk that the GOT's watchlist ("Prohibited Immigrants List") would include political dissidents since the list does not include Tanzanian citizens. There is also little risk that the GOT would use USG watchlists inappropriately. While additional exchange of watchlists may be possible, Post views the most pressing matter to be improving the GOT's management of existing watchlists. As noted above, Tanzania has a variety of watchlists, but the use and effectiveness of these watchlists remains questionable. Linkage of PISCES and encouraging greater interagency cooperation within the GOT, would significantly improve Tanzania's pursuit of terrorist information. END COMMENT.  
RETZER